

NEWS RELEASE

**USDA Forest Service
Coconino National Forest**



www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino

For Immediate Release

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La Barranca Fire Update

Verde Valley, AZ - The Barranca Fire has transitioned into a Type III Fire Management Team as of Monday June 5, with Dave Coryn as the Incident Commander. The Incident Command Post is located at the Beaver Creek Work Center off Forest Road 618, in the Beaver Creek area.

The fire has shown minimal activity, although heat still remains within the interior. The containment line has not been completed due to inaccessible terrain. The fire remains at 95% containment with mop-up completed along 200 feet of the perimeter. Dust devils have been visible within the fire area and have potential to spread embers across the fireline.

Start date/time: Thursday, June 1, 2006 – 2 p.m.

Cause: Human-caused. The La Barranca Fire was caused by a fence company that was grinding on a metal fence post on private property.

Fuels: Grass, brush, pinyon-juniper woodland

Size: Total Size – 836 acres

Containment: 95%

Estimated Containment Date: 6 p.m., June 6

Resources Committed: 2 State corrections crews, 3 engines, 1 water tender, 1 helicopter and helitack crew. Total personnel: 78

Estimated Cost to Date: \$1,600,000.

Predicted Weather: Continued hot and dry conditions.

Structures saved: 158

Structures lost:

- 1 primary residence
- 1 partially-damaged residence
- 1 guest house/shop destroyed
- 3 outbuildings destroyed

Closures:

Three trails remain closed: Jacks Canyon, Hot Loop and Munds Mountain. Residents returned to their homes Saturday afternoon.

Summary: The La Barranca Fire serves to highlight the extreme fire conditions that exist statewide this year and the importance of everyone being extra careful with fire. The Coconino National Forest implemented additional fire restrictions Monday, June 5.

To learn more about creating defensible space on private property, please visit: www.firewise.org or <http://ag.arizona.edu/firewise/>

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